

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY

INFO AMCONSUL PORT MORESBY PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDEV, TQ, PP

SUBJECT: PACIFIC ISLAND REPRESENTATION AT PNG INDEPENDENCE
CELEBRATIONS

REF: A. PORT MORESBY 597

B. PARIS 16924

C. WELLINGTON 1833

D. STATE 149435

E. STATE 152341

1. MATANE, MINISTER FOR PNG AFFAIRS AND HEAD PNG OFFICE
ATTACHED TO AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY, CALLED ON EA/APN ON JULY 8
TO DISCUSS REPRESENTATION AT PNG INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATIONS
BY US, US TERRITORIES OF GUAM AND AMERICAN SAMOA AND TRUST
TERRITORY OF PACIFIC ISLANDS (TTPI). MATANE WAS ACCOMPAN-
IED BY FIRST SECRETARY McCARTHY OF AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY.

2. MATANE SAID GPNG WISHED TO HOLD REPRESENTATION AT
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INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATIONS TO MINIMUM IN VIEW OF LIMITED
ACCOMMODATIONS IN PORT MORESBY AND HENCE PLANNED TO INVITE
ONLY ONE REPRESENTATIVE TO REPRESENT TTPI, GUAM AND
AMERICAN SAMOA. MATANE SAID LETTER TO TTPI (PARA 2 REF A)

HAS NOW BEEN TRANSMITTED TO EMBASSY CANBERRA BUT HE WAS NOT AWARE OF PRECISE CONTENTS.

3. RE REPRESENTATION OF OTHER PACIFIC ISLAND TERRITORIES, WE WERE INFORMED THAT GPNG HAS EITHER SENT OR IS PLANNING TO SEND INVITATIONS TO FOLLOWING:

A. FRENCH TERRITORIES - ONE INVITATION TO GOF ASKING FOR NOMINATION OF ONE REPRESENTATIVE FOR ALL TERRITORIES.

B. NEW HEBRIDES - INVITATIONS TO BRITAIN AND FRANCE, PRESUMABLY INVITING BRITISH AND FRENCH RESIDENT COMMISSIONERS.

C. GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS - INVITATION TO GOVERNOR GEIC TRANSMITTED THROUGH BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER IN CANBERRA. INVITATION ALSO EXPECTED TO BE EXTENDED TO CHIEF MINISTER.

D. SOLOMON ISLANDS - CHIEF MINISTER AND POSSIBLY GOVERNOR AND UP TO 3 OTHER MINISTERS BEING INVITED DIRECTLY.

E. COOK ISLANDS - LETTER TO PREMIER TRANSMITTED THROUGH GNZ.

F. NIUE AND TOKELAUS - LETTER TO GNZ ASKING FOR NOMINATION OF ONE REPRESENTATIVE FOR BOTH.

4. EMBASSY CANBERRA IS REQUESTED TO POUCH TO DEPARTMENT SOONEST PNG LETTER TO HICOM (PARA 2 REF A) AND CABLE TEXT FOR DEPARTMENT'S CONSIDERATION IN DETERMINING APPROPRIATE REPRESENTATION BY TTPI, GUAM AND AMERICAN SAMOA (REF D). DEPARTMENT WILL INFORM HICOM AS APPROPRIATE.

5. MATANE'S REMARKS ON INVITATION TO US COVERED SEPTEL.

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